

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SEOUL 02172 170850Z
ACTION EA-12

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L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06
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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SOPN, KS, US
SUBJECT: KOREAN MEDIA ON U.S. RELATED TOPICS, MARCH 17

REF: SEOUL 2138 (DTG 160840Z MAR 78)

1. TEAM SPIRIT: WRAPUP OF TEAM SPIRIT MERITS SUBSTANTIAL
SPREAD OF FEATURES, RESUMES, PHOTOS, ETC. UNIFORMLY OPTIMISTIC
EDITORIALS SEE IN THE EXERCISE A PREVISION OF THE EFFICACY OF
THE COMBINED ROK-U.S. COMMAND (TONG A ILBO), "FIRM U.S.
DETERMINATION TO DEFEND KOREA" (SEOUL SHINMUN), AND AN EFFEC-
TIVE WARNING DELIVERED TO NORTH KOREA (ALL PAPERS). ALL
PAPERS QUOTE DEFENSE MIN.'S MESSAGE TO GEN. VESSEY HAILING
COMPLETION OF EXERCISE.

2. FRASER'S COMMITTEE. ALL PAPERS MENTION, BRIEFLY, ROK
AMB.'S MEETING WITH HOLBROOKE TO DISCUSS PTS TESTIMONY.
COVERAGE OF FRASER COMMITTEE'S SECOND DAY, INCLUDING RENARD TES-
TIMONY, IS EXTENSIVE. WHILE EACH PAPER EXCERPTS DIFFERENT PORTIONS,
ALL MENTION "U.S. INTELLIGENCE REPORT OF LATE 1960'S"

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STATING THAT PTS TOOK ORDERS FROM BUT WAS NOT FORMALLY
AN EMPLOYEE OF THE ROKG (SEMIOFFICIAL KYONGHYANG SINMUN
HEADLINES, "PARK WAS NOT A GENUINE AGENT OF THE ROKG").
EQUALLY WIDELY QUOTED IS ALLEGED 1970 CABLE FROM STATE
TO EMB. SEOUL URGING ACTION TO HAVE ROKG "CHECK....PTS'
ACTIVITIES".

3. KIM DONG JO TESTIMONY: TONG-A ILBO GOSSIP COLUMN REPORTS THAT ROK AMB. KIM YONG SIK'S PLANNED RETURN TO SEOUL 3/21 IS INTENDED NOT SO MUCH FOR ROUTINE ATTENDANCE AT CHIEFS OF MISSIONS CONFERENCE AS FOR SERIES OF TOP-LEVEL MEETINGS AIMED AT DISPELLING THE "DARK CLOUD OVER MOFA", I.E. CONGRESSIONAL DEMAND FOR TESTIMONY BY EX-AMB KIM DONG JO. TONG- SEES NO GIVE IN MOFA'S ADAMANT POSITION ON THE MATTER.

4. LOCKHEED INVESTIGATION: MAJOR NEWS IN ALL PAPERS AND BROADCASTS IS STORY THAT IRS SEIZED 78 DOCUMENTS FROM LOCKHEED'S ONTARIO, CAL. FACILITY, USING SEARCH WARRANT ALLEGING LOCKHEED CONSPIRACY TO SELL ROKG SOLID PROPELLANT ROCKET FUEL WITHOUT AN EXPORT LICENSE.

5. HANKUK ILBO, REHASHING RUMOR THAT AMB. SNEIDER MAY BE REASSIGNED IN MAY, WEIGHS EVIDENCE ON BOTH SIDES AND CONCLUDES THAT, WHILE THE RUMOR IS PROBABLY "FALSE.... IT CANNOT BE DISMISSED AS UTTERLY GROUNDLESS", ADDING THAT, "IF AMB. SNEIDER WERE TO LEAVE THE STATE DEPT., THAT WOULD LEAVE ONLY MR. RICH AS KOREAN EXPERT...U.S. ROK RELATIONS WOULD BE SERIOUSLY INCONVENIENCED. SNEIDER

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